ワーキング・ホリデー 2

[原作] 坂木 司
[漫画] こやま あやこ

Tsukasa Saka・Ayako Koyama Tsukasa Saka 2007 ワーホリ 文藝春秋刊

BLADE COMICS SELECT

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Mag GARDEN

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マッグガーデン

「はじめまして、お父さん」

ホストクラブで働く元ヤン津田大和のもとに現れたのは、息子と名乗る小学5年生の進。血気盛んな大和と、所帯じみた進の織り成す、慣れないひと夏の父子関係。短い夏の間に、大和は進に大事なことを教えていき、また進からも大事なことを教わっていく。不器用な二人のこそばゆく、せつない夏休みは、やがて終わりを迎えることに――

父と子のハートフルストーリー完結編

Working Holiday

by Sakaki Tsukasa + Koyama Ayako Chapter 6

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CONTENTS

Holiday 6. ● "Sandwich in potato and meat" 5

Holiday 7. ● "Ice cream" 39

Holiday 8. ● "Meat ball with rice" 79

Holiday 9. ● "Sushi" 113

Holiday 10. ● "Momen tofu" 145

OW, DAMMIT!
WHAT THE HELL ...
.....
YOU WANNA PIECE OF ME?
DAMMIT, YOU WANNA DIE?!
WHAT HAPPENED?
I BANGED MY FOOT AGAINST THE TABLE.

Holiday 6.
Sandwich in potato and meat

crunch
OH, SHUT IT. WHATEVER IT IS, I'M DEFINITELY IN FIGHTING MODE, NOT CRYING MODE.
BLAMING YOUR OWN MISTAKE ON OTHERS? THAT'S JUST BAD FORM.
direct hit
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
Oww! It hurts! Waa!
INSTEAD OF WHINING LIKE THAT, YOU JUST YELL,
"OW, THAT HURT! DAMMIT, YOU WANNA DIE?!"

I had a dream last night.

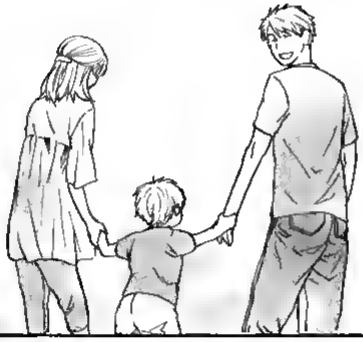
It's nearly midway through August.

HOW WEIRD.

It was about Susumu.

I was laughing,

and little Susumu was sandwiched between me and Yukiko.



Just because of one goddamn dream,

I'm all moody this morning.

What's the matter with me?

Hey!
RATTLE
Hey-yah!
Hey!
RATTLE
PULL
THIS SORT OF SWEATY JOB AIN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL!
I GET TO VENT ALL MY FRUSTRATIONS!
BESIDES, I SCORED TWO CANS OF JUICE!
whisper
whisper
Huh... I can't..
It's okay!
Dear me, you're sweating buckets! Must be hard work! Here, take these!

LET'S SEE... I'VE GOT TO TAKE THESE UP TO THE THIRD FLOOR.
...HUH?
THIS BUILDING ...
...HAS NO ELEVATOR?

Almost gave up on the second floor landing.

No make-up, hair tied up.. was she embarrassed to be seen like that?
Well, at least she answered the door. Some women would just pretend they aren't home...
AH...
UMM...
THIS IS HEAVY. LET ME BRING IT IN FOR YOU!
WHERE DO I SIGN?
SIGN OVER HERE,
THANK YOU.

OH, ALRIGHT...
ER...
AH...
NO NEED...
OKAY THEN!
It's that heavy?!
Here goes...
HU-ARGH!!

I'M SO SORRY, THAT LOOKED REALLY HEAVY!
I'D LIKE TO OFFER YOU A COLD DRINK OR SOMETHING...
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING AT ALL...
HOW ABOUT WE DRINK THIS?
AH!
THAT'S OKAY.
She looks really sorry

I GOT THIS FROM THE LAST HOUSE I DELIVERED TO.
IS SHE PLAYING IT CAUTIOUS? DARN, THIS TYPE OF WOMAN IS REALLY TROUBLE-SOME...
ER...
THEN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SO IT'S BEST TO DRINK THEM WHILE THEY'RE STILL COLD.
THEY'D WARM UP SOON IF I CARRIED THEM AROUND WITH ME...
Pssh...
HONEY BEE EXPRESS
YOU'RE RIGHT!

WHAT?
SUSUMU
DAD, YOU'RE BACK!
WE'RE HAVING SANDWICHES TODAY!
How do you do, Yamato-san!
WHAT ARE THESE TWO DOING HERE?
COME ON, THOSE TWO DID HELP MAKE THE SANDWICHES!
THEY'RE HIS BEST FRIENDS
WHAT SONS...
LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE A COUPLE MORE SONS!

REALLY? THANKS, BOYS!
SO, DAD...
WE'RE GOING OUT AFTER THIS, AND WE'LL TAKE THIS ALONG TOO.
AFTER ALL, IT'S ALL THEIR HARD WORK
HUH?

THOSE TWO REALLY PUT THEIR HEART AND SOUL INTO MAKING LUNCH.
Of course, I did my part as well. At least I made sure that the food wasn't raw.
WAIT...
Quick, you two! Let's run for it!
HEY YOU, COME BACK HERE!
SLAM
GURGH!

YAMATO-SAN, MINE'S FILLED WITH PICKLED EGGPLANT AND CUCUMBER. .
WELL, LET'S SWAP. . THIS ONE'S TUNA.
I thought it was peanut butter!
THIS BROWN STUFF... IT'S 100% MISO...
Oh, looks normal
THIS ONE'S TUNA AND EGG. SUSUMU MUST HAVE MADE IT, RIGHT?
Er, really
Ah, but
it's surprisingly delicious!

HELLO...
AH, BOSS!
I'VE GOT SEVERAL ITEMS FOR DELIVERY...
BZZZ
BZZZ
HAHA! THAT'S CUTE!
A NATTO SUSHI ROLL ROLLED UP IN BREAD...
What the heck were they thinking?
TWO BIG PARCELS... AND THREE ENVELOPES.
OKAY, GOT IT!
WHAT ARE THEY?
SURE, NO PROBLEM.
OKAY!
HEY, OKITA...
GET THERE FAST, BUT NOT SO FAST THAT YOU PUKE UP LUNCH!
RIGHT.
I'M GOING OVER TO YAMAUCHI-SAN'S.

THE MEAT AND POTATO SANDWICH WAS ACTUALLY QUITE GOOD.
Among our regular clients, there are those who have signed a contract with us.
YOU'RE HERE ALREADY?
Those on a contract get special discounts on over-sized deliveries.
WOW, YOU'RE FAST. WAIT A MINUTE.
WELL, WE'RE JUST NEARBY.
IT'S YAMAUCHI HERE,
RIGHT.
I'M GETTING HONEY BEE EXPRESS TO SEND IT OVER NOW.
THANK YOU SO MUCH.

IT'S OVER TO YOU NOW!
AS ALWAYS, THANKS!
BZZZ
BZZZ
OH.
HELLO?
EXCUSE ME, BUT DO YOU PROVIDE A PARCEL PICK-UP SERVICE?
YES, WE DO.
COULD I HAVE YOUR ADDRESS, MA'AM?

Over the next two days, this "Suzuki Kyouko" person called me a total of six times.

I KNOW YOU'RE TIRED, BUT COULD YOU PLEASE PAY ATTENTION HERE—
...
Y-YEAH?
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW EXHAUSTING IT IS BEING CALLED OUT TO THE SAME PLACE THREE TIMES A DAY.
dead tired

HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING OR NOT?

WITH THE RETAIL ALLEY MERCHANTS TO PROMOTE SAFETY IN OUR DISTRICT.
IT'S ABOUT HONEYBEE'S PLAN FOR A JOINT EVENT
SORRY 'BOUT THAT... BUT WHAT'S UP?

DO YOU WANT TO HELP AT THE EVENT, OR WOULD YOU RATHER CARRY ON WITH DELIVERIES ON THAT DAY?
OH, THE ONE ABOUT GIVING OUT BALLOONS AND SUCH?

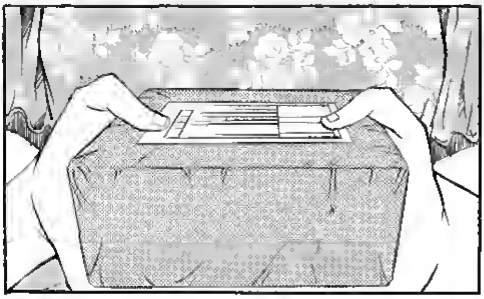
Of course I'd choose to be part of the event!
HMM...
ANOTHER POP FEELING!!
I'M SO USED TO BEING PART OF EVENTS. BUT THEY WERE EVENTS OF A DIFFERENT SORT.

BZZ
.....
BZZ
BZZ

Scribble
ALRIGHT THEN. IT'S NEXT SATURDAY, DON'T FORGET.
Scribble
NO PROB.

BZZ

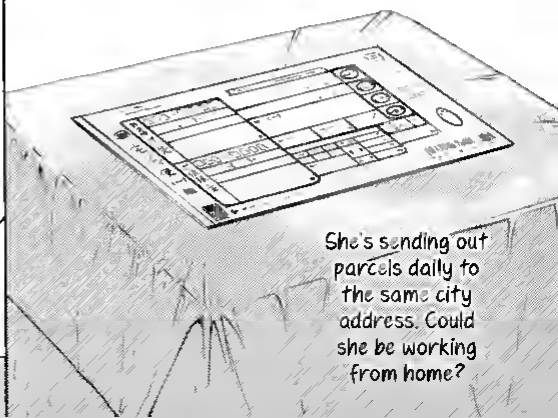
BZZ



PLEASE DELIVER THIS FOR ME.

ALRIGHT, NO PROBLEM.
COULDN'T THIS HAVE BEEN EASILY MAILED AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE?

If it's work...
Manager Yamauchi.


She's sending out parcels daily to the same city address. Could she be working from home?

EXCUSE ME, SUZUKI-SAN.
YES?
IF I MAY SUGGEST ...
YES?
IF YOUR WORK REQUIRES FREQUENT DELIVERIES, WHY DON'T YOU CONSIDER SIGNING A CONTRACT WITH OUR COMPANY?
OR EVEN IF YOU DON'T SIGN UP, IF YOUR MONTHLY DELIVERIES EXCEED A CERTAIN AMOUNT, WE'LL GIVE YOU A DISCOUNT.

IF THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE, DO GIVE ME A CALL.
GOODBYE.
ALRIGHT.
.....
SORRY IF I'VE SUGGESTED SOMETHING UNNECES-SARY.
I SEE...

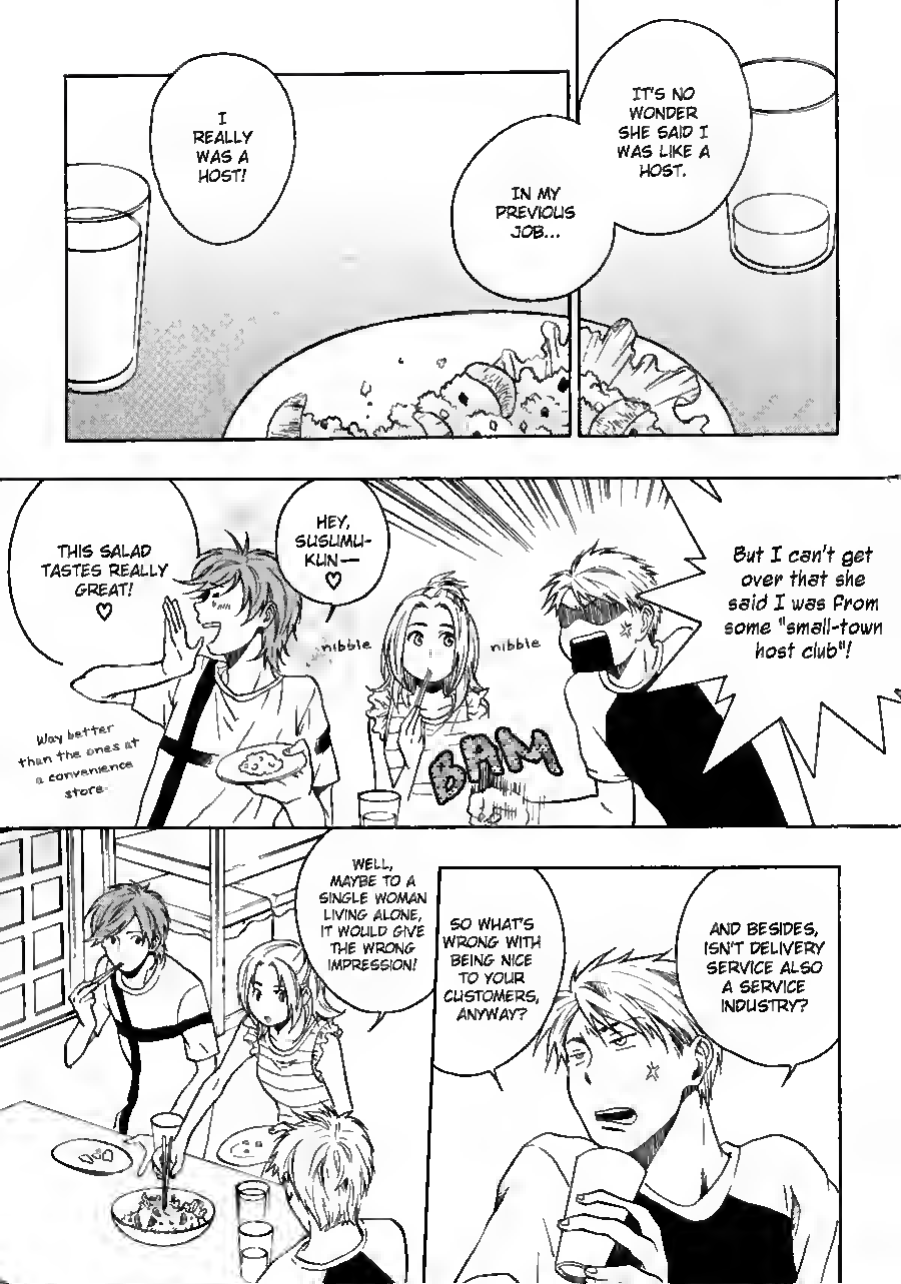
... WHY?
WHAT HAP-PENED?
OKITA!

I DON'T RECALL DOING ANY-THING...
Y-YES, BUT
THE ONE WHO WENT OVER TO SUZUKI-SAN'S PLACE WAS YOU, WASN'T IT?
YOU GOT A COMPLAINT?

I PICKED UP A PARCEL LIKE ALWAYS. AND SINCE SHE'S BEEN SENDING PARCELS FREQUENTLY, I JUST ASKED IF SHE WOULD LIKE TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH US.
BUT SHE DIDN'T LOOK TOO HAPPY ABOUT THAT.

I DON'T THINK YOU WOULD LIE ABOUT THAT.
IT DIDN'T SIT WELL WITH SUZUKI-SAN.
BUT I DO KNOW YOU TEND TO GET OVER-FAMILIAR WITH PEOPLE.
YOU POKED YOUR NOSE WHERE IT DIDN'T BELONG,
AND NOT JUST THAT...
Alright You can get off your knees now
Yessir—

SHE SAID?
IT SEEMS THAT YOU WERE TOO FRIENDLY AND MADE SUZUKI-SAN FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.
AND SHE SAID...
SHE SAID...
"He was just like a host from some small-town host club."

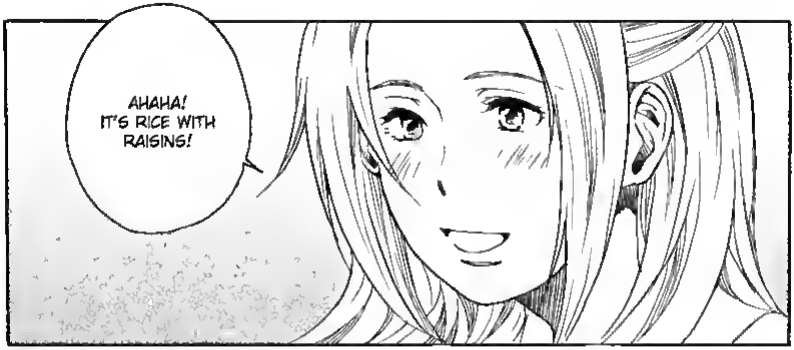

I REALLY WAS A HOST!
IN MY PREVIOUS JOB...
IT'S NO WONDER SHE SAID I WAS LIKE A HOST.
THIS SALAD TASTES REALLY GREAT! ♡
Way better than the ones at a convenience store.
HEY, SUSUMU-KUN— ♡
nibble
nibble
BAM
But I can't get over that she said I was from some "small-town host club"!
WELL, MAYBE TO A SINGLE WOMAN LIVING ALONE, IT WOULD GIVE THE WRONG IMPRESSION!
SO WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING NICE TO YOUR CUSTOMERS, ANYWAY?
AND BESIDES, ISN'T DELIVERY SERVICE ALSO A SERVICE INDUSTRY?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
This is soup
nod nod
Here, have some more
THAT'S TRUE.
AFTER ALL, YOU EVEN ENTERED HER APARTMENT AND GAVE HER A DRINK!
BUT IT'S STRANGE THAT SHE DIDN'T COMPLAIN ON THE FIRST OCCASION YOU MET.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU IT'S BAD TO BE PICKY ABOUT FOOD?
HUH? NOTHING... NANA SEEMS TO LIKE THIS SALAD A LOT...
And Yukiya, too
WHAT DO YOU HAVE AGAINST THIS SALAD?
HUH... WAIT A SEC...
So that's why you didn't touch the salad—
Huh? You don't like it? This salad tastes amazing!

So I'd never touch a salad with apples and oranges in it!
OR THE MARMALADE GRAVY OVER SPARERIBS— I HATE 'EM ALL!
LOOK, I HATE FRUIT. EVEN IF IT'S THE PINEAPPLE IN SWEET AND SOUR PORK, THE FRUIT ON A HAMSTEAK,
YOU GUYS ARE ANNOYING!
WHATEVER I SERVE JUST EAT IT.
YOU CAN CARRY ON WITH YOUR OUTDATED SHOWA-ERA IDEAS, BUT...
gulp

RIGHT, BACK TO THE TOPIC .. WHAT SORT OF PERSON IS THAT CUSTOMER OF YOURS?
chew
chew
UM... SHE'S NOT PRETTY, BUT NOT BAD-LOOKING EITHER...
THE SIMPLE GIRL-NEXT-DOOR TYPE.
AND HER DECOR WAS REALLY BORING, TOO.
BUT SHE LIKES TO WEAR FRILLY DRESSES?
ACTUALLY, DIDN'T SHE ONCE SAY THAT SHE LIKES ALWAYS HAVING THE SAME DELIVERY GUY?

WELL, WHATEVER ...
... HUH?
Here, curry.
SHE SHOULD REALISE IT HERSELF, THEN...
THAT HER OWN COMPLAINTS ARE ACTUALLY PRETTY BASELESS.
HUH? WHAT'S THIS?
Ahaha!
THIS CURRY WILL HELP YOU LOVE THE FOOD YOU HATE!
Susumu! You...
DIDN'T I TELL YOU I HATED THIS KINDA STUFF...



I could smell the shampoo that we both used on Susumu.

I releosed my hold on him slightly. But only slightly,

becouse I wonted to hold on to thot scent o little longer.